

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of handing over a plurality of connections of a subscriber unit from a first cellular communication system supporting the plurality of connections of the subscriber unit to a second cellular communication system having capability for supporting only one connection, the method comprising the steps of:

~~forwarding all the connections directly from the first communication system to the second communication system;~~

entering at least a first connection of said plurality of connections into a holding state

directed by the second communication system;

forming a handover connection to the subscriber unit through the second cellular communication system;

handing over a second connection of said plurality of connections to the second cellular communication system by associating the second connection with said handover connection;

entering said at least first connection into an active state by switching the at least first connection with the handover connection while placing the previously active second connection on hold; and

forwarding all the connections directly from the first communication system to the second communication system.

2. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the step of entering includes multiplexing all of the connections with the handover connection.

3. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of selecting the second connection from the plurality of connections in response to at least one characteristic of at least one of the plurality of connections.

4. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 3 wherein the characteristic is related to an error rate of the second connection.

5. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 3 wherein the step of selecting comprises selecting a data service connection in preference to a voice service connection as the second connection.

6. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 3 wherein the at least one characteristic comprises at least one characteristic chosen from the group consisting of:

- a) a priority;
- b) a transaction identifier; and
- c) a time of setup of at least one of the plurality of connections.

7. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the at least first connection is a data connection and the method comprises the further steps of:

- storing data of the at least first connection in memory when the at least first connection is in the holding state; and
- communicating the data stored in said memory when the at least first connection enters the active state.

8. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the at least first connection is a data connection and the method comprises the further steps of:

- storing data of the at least first connection in memory when the at least first connection is in the holding state; and
- the subscriber unit retrieving the stored data from the memory by setting up a separate data call.

9. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of notifying a user of the subscriber unit of which of the plurality of connections are in a holding state.

10. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least one of the plurality of connections is between the subscriber unit and a second cellular communication unit and further comprising the step of notifying a user of the second cellular communication unit of which of the plurality of connections are in a holding state.

11. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 9 wherein the notification is by means of a voice communication if at least one of the plurality of connections is a voice service connection.

12. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of selecting the second connection in response to a parameter set by an operator of at least one of the first or second cellular communication systems.

13. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of selecting the second connection in response to a parameter set by a user of the subscriber unit.

14. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein if the handover to the second cellular communication system is unsuccessful at least one of the plurality of connections is re-established through the first cellular communication system.

15. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the second cellular communication system comprises a master switch center comprising functionality for selecting the second connection out of the plurality of connections.

16. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the method is operated in a single integrated master switch centre for the first cellular communication system and the second cellular communication system.

17. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the second cellular communication system is operable to only support one connection for each served subscriber unit.

18. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the plurality of connections is circuit switched connections.

19. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the second cellular communication system is a Second Generation Cellular Communication System.

20. (original) A method as claimed in claim 19 wherein the second cellular communication system is a Global System for Mobile communication (GSM) cellular communication system.

21. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first cellular communication system is a Third Generation Cellular Communication System.

22. (original) A method as claimed in claim 21 wherein the first cellular communication system is a Universal Mobile Telecommunication System (UMTS).

23. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 14 wherein the first communication system maintains control of the connection in the second communication system following a handover.

24. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 22 wherein the step of entering said at least first connection into an active state is performed in accordance with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Partnership Project (3G PP) Technical Specification 24.083.

25. (allowed) An apparatus for handing over a plurality of connections of a subscriber unit from a first cellular communication system supporting the plurality of connections of the subscriber unit to a second cellular communication system having capability for supporting only one connection; the apparatus comprising:

- means for forwarding all the connections directly from the first communication system to the second communication system;

- means for entering at least a first connection of said plurality of connections into a holding state directed by the second communication system;

- means for forming a handover connection to the subscriber unit through the second cellular communication system;

- means for handing over a second connection of said plurality of connections to the second cellular communication system by associating the second connection with said handover connection;

- means for entering said at least first connection into an active state by switching the at least first connection with the handover connection while placing the previously active second connection on hold.